

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 102626  
ORIGIN PM-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 MCE-00 SS-15 SP-02  
NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 SSO-00 TRSE-00  
OMB-01 INRE-00 /056 R

DRAFTED BY PM/SAS:D KEENE;NEA/ARP:D M WINN:LB  
APPROVED BY NEA/ARP:J W TWINAM  
PM/MC:A ANDRONOVITCH  
DSAA:TS/C:T TYLER  
PM/SAS:A S KOCHANEK

-----010964 220500Z /13

O P 212353Z APR 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MANAMA IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY  
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN  
CHUSMTM DHAHRAN  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN  
SECDEF WASHDC 0000  
HQS USAF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 102626

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, BA, SA

SUBJECT: BAHRAINI ARMS REQUESTS

REFERENCES: (A) MANAMA 930 NOTAL, (B) MANAMA 890 NOTAL,  
(C) MANAMA 858 NOTAL, (D) STATE 93496 NOTAL, (E) MANAMA 660  
NOTAL, (F) JIDDA 2644 NOTAL, (G) JIDDA 2949, (H) 77 STATE  
195932 NOTAL

1. RE QUESTION REF B, WHILE USG WILL ACCEPT NON-TRANSFER  
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ASSURANCES FROM GOB WHICH HAVE BEEN OBTAINED BY SAG, AGUSTA  
BELL, OR EMBASSY MANAMA, IT APPEARS IN THIS CASE TO BE MOST  
CONVENIENT FOR MANAMA TO OBTAIN THEM (AS EMBASSY JIDDA  
HAS NOTIFIED SAUDIS, PARA 1 REF G). ACCORDINGLY, EMBASSY  
SHOULD SEEK ASSURANCES FROM GOB ACCORDING TO FOLLOWING  
STANDARD FORMAT.

QUOTE: THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF BAHRAIN PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND HAS THE HONOR TO CALL TO THE ATTENTION OF THE EMBASSY THE PROPOSED PURCHASE BY THE GOVERNMENT OF BAHRAIN OF 12 AB-212 HELICOPTERS FROM ITALY.

AS THE EQUIPMENT IN QUESTION HAS BEEN MANUFACTURED IN ITALY BY THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY EXPORTED UNDER LICENSE FROM THE

UNITED STATES, THE GOVERNMENT OF BAHRAIN UNDERSTANDS THAT THE CONSUMMATION OF THIS TRANSACTION IS DEPENDENT UPON THE RECEIPT BY THE SELLER OF WRITTEN CONSENT TO THE SALE FROM THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND FURTHER UNDERSTANDS THAT IN KEEPING WITH UNITED STATES LAW AND REGULATIONS, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT MAY GIVE SUCH CONSENT ONLY UPON BEING FURNISHED WITH ASSURANCES FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF BAHRAIN THAT IT WILL NOT TRANSFER BY ANY MEANS SUCH DEFENSE ARTICLES TO ANY OTHER COUNTRY, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION, OR PERSON WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING THE WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND THAT SUCH DEFENSE ARTICLES WILL BE USED ONLY FOR THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH MILITARY SALES MAY BE MADE BY THE UNITED STATES.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FOREGOING, THE GOVERNMENT OF BAHRAIN HEREBY GIVES ITS ASSURANCES THAT IT WILL NOT TRANSFER THE HELICOPTERS AND/OR THEIR COMPONENTS WHICH IT PROPOSES TO CONFIDENTIAL

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PURCHASE FROM ITALY BY SALE, LEASE, RELEASE, ASSIGNMENT, LOAN, CONVEYANCE, OR ANY OTHER MEANS TO ANOTHER GOVERNMENT, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION, OR PERSON WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING THE WRITTEN APPROVAL OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND THAT IT WILL USE SUCH ARTICLES SOLELY FOR INTERNAL SECURITY, FOR LEGITIMATE SELF-DEFENSE, TO PARTICIPATE IN REGIONAL OR COLLECTIVE ARRANGEMENTS OR MEASURES CONSISTENT WITH THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS, OR TO ENGAGE IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC WORKS OR OTHER ACTIVITIES HELPFUL TO ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT. (FORMAL CLOSE) END QUOTE.

2. ALTHOUGH DEPARTMENT PREFERS ASSURANCES THROUGH FOREIGN MINISTRY, FORMAT MAY BE VARIED SLIGHTLY IF HEIR APPARENT/ DEFENSE MINISTER SHAIKH HAMAD SIGNS.

3. AFTER ASSURANCES OBTAINED, DEPARTMENT PREPARED TO APPROVE AGUSTA BELL FOR SALE OF HELICOPTERS TO BAHRAIN.

4. RE QUESTION OF APPROPRIATE ASSEMBLY POINT AND DELIVERY CONDITION OF HELICOPTERS (PARA 5 REF D), EMBASSY ROME AND

USMTM DHAHRAN ARE IN BETTER POSITION THAN DEPARTMENT TO COMMENT. SAG HAS STATED THAT IT DOES NOT CARE WHETHER HELICOPTERS ARE DELIVERED DIRECTLY TO BAHRAIN OR TO SAUDI ARABIA FOR REDELIVERY TO BAHRAIN (PARA 1, REF F). WE HAVE ASSUMED THAT AGUSTA BELL PERSONNEL WOULD HANDLE ASSEMBLY OF HELICOPTERS UPON ARRIVAL MANAMA, ALTHOUGH PARA 5 REF E SUGGESTS THAT SHEIKH HAMAD EXPECTS RSAF TO ASSEMBLE THEM AT DHAHRAN. THIS THEREFORE APPEARS TO BE MATTER TO BE SETTLED AMONG AGUSTA,

BAHRAINIS, AND RSAF.

5. RE QUERY PARA 1 REF B (I.E., WHETHER NON-TRANSFER ASSURANCES LETTER SHOULD COVER ALL ARMS AND MUNITIONS OR CONFIDENTIAL

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ONLY HELICOPTERS), SEPARATE LETTER NOT NECESSARY IN CASE OF FMS SALES SUCH AS 2.75 INCH ROCKETS. IN FMS PROCEDURES, USG WILL ISSUE LETTER OF OFFER INCORPORATING INTER ALIA NON-TRANSFER ASSURANCES AS TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE. GOB SIGNATURE ON LOA MEANS THAT GOB ACCEPTS THESE TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

6. IN CASE OF ROCKETS, DEPARTMENT IS IN PROCESS OF AUTHORIZING DOD TO PREPARE LOA FOR THIS SALE. LOA WILL BE ISSUED AS SOON AS PAYMENT MODALITIES ARE WORKED OUT. WHILE METHOD OF PAYMENT CAN IN THEORY TAKE ONE OF SEVERAL FORMS, WE PREFER TO STANDARDIZE PAYMENT PROCEDURES FOR TRILATERAL SUPPLY ARRANGEMENTS ALONG LINES OF REF H. UNDER THESE GUIDELINES, IT IS UP TO BAHRAIN FORMALLY TO REQUEST NECESSARY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM SAG.

7. QUESTION OF DELIVERY OF ROCKETS (PARA 2, REF C) APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN RESOLVED BY REF G: THEY WILL BE DELIVERED DIRECTLY TO BAHRAIN. EVEN WITH LOW LEVEL OF U.S.-BAHRAINI MILITARY SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP, RECOMMEND BAHRAIN CONTRACT WITH FREIGHT FORWARDER FOR MOVEMENT OF DEFENSE ARTICLES FROM U.S. TO BAHRAIN (IF BAHRAINIS HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO).

8. RE PENDING REQUEST FOR 5000 MORE LAW MISSILES AND 2000 PRACTICE ROCKETS, USG DECISION MUST AWAIT LETTER OF JUSTIFICATION PROMISED BY SHEIKH HAMAD (PARA 7 REF E).

9. REPORT ON HAWK STUDY FOLLOWS SEPTEL.  
CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARMS, NEGOTIATIONS, MILITARY SALES, ARMS SHIPMENTS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Type:** TE  
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